

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment in RCE Application is in response to the Office Action of May 2, 2007. The Office Action indicated that Claims 1-25 are pending and rejected. With this Amendment, Claims 1, 10, 13 and 19 are amended, and Claims 1-25 are presented for reconsideration and allowance.

Claim Objections

The Examiner objected to Claim 10 as missing the word “first” in line 1. With this Amendment, Claim 10 is amended to add the word “first” in line 1. Withdrawal of the objection and allowance of Claim 10 is therefore requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1, 3, 12-15, 17 and 20-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Ngo (U.S. Patent No. 6,525,515).

With this Amendment, independent Claims 1, 13 and 19 are amended to include limitations to the connector including a first contact for connecting to a first power supply contact of the source, a second contact for connecting to a logic output from the source, and a third contact for connecting to a second power supply contact of the source. Amended Claim 1 is amended to include a limitation to the logic output from the source enabling a limited inrush at the current input. Amended Claim 13 is amended to include a limitation to enabling a limited inrush at the current input during a second time interval that is controlled by the logic output from the source. Amended Claim 19 is amended to include a limitation to a logic output from the source of energization enabling a limited inrush at the current input during a second time interval.

Ngo does not disclose connecting first, second and third contacts to a source of energization. Ngo does not disclose a logic output from a source of energization controlling or enabling a limited inrush during a second time interval as presently Claimed in Claims 1, 13 and 19. Claims 1, 3, 12-15, 17 and 20-21, as presently amended, are therefore considered novel. Withdrawal of the rejection under 35 USC 102, reconsideration and allowance of amended Claims

1, 3, 12-15, 17 and 20-21 are therefore requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 2, 5-11, 16, 18 and 22-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Ngo '515. As discussed above, independent Claims 1, 13 and 19 are amended to include limitations to a connector with first, second and third contacts plugging into a source of energization, and limitations to a logic output from a source of energization controlling or enabling a limited inrush during a second time interval. Ngo does not teach or suggest these limitations. Dependent Claims 2, 5-11, 16, 18 and 22-25 include additional limitations that, when taken in combination with the limitations of the independent Claims 1, 13 or 19 are also believed to be patentable. Withdrawal of the rejections under 35 USC 103, and reconsideration and allowance of Claims 2, 5-11, 16, 18 and 22-25 are therefore requested.

Double Patenting

Claims 1, 4, 13, 17, 19 and 21 were provisionally rejected on the grounds of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 9, 13, 16 and 20 of copending Application No. 11/122,960.

The Amendments to the Claims of the present application, discussed above, are believed to put the present application in condition for allowance except for the double patenting rejections.

Applicant requests that the Examiner reconsider the double patenting rejections in light of the amendments to the claims in the present application that include limitations to a connector with first, second and third contacts plugging into a source of energization, and limitations to a logic output from the source of energization controlling or enabling a limited inrush during a second time interval. The Claims, as presently amended, in the present application are believed to be non-obvious over the claims in later-filed copending Application No. 11/122,960. Withdrawal of the double patenting rejection is therefore requested.

If the double patenting rejection is not withdrawn based on the claim amendments and it is the only remaining issue in the present application, then Applicant requests that the double

patenting rejection be withdrawn in the present application and moved to the later-filed Application 11/122,960 per MPEP 804.

Conclusion

With this Amendment, the application appears to be in condition for allowance, and favorable action is requested.

The Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1123.

Respectfully submitted,

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